

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 IO-11 AID-05 OMB-01 PC-01 SSC-01 /089 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:RAMCGUIRE/JKBISHOP:JW

APPROVED BY AF/W:TWMSMITH

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R 130320Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY LISBON

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CV, PDIP, EAID, PU, AO

SUBJECT: U.S. RELATIONS WITH GUINEA-BISSAU AND CAPE VERDE

REF: STATE 19618 (NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING IS MORE DETAILED REPORT OF FEBRUARY 3 MEETING OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE AND GUINEA-BISSAU AMBASSADOR GIL FERNANDES. AS NOTED REFTEL, SCHAUFLE SAID THAT US IS PREPARING TO ESTABLISH AN EMBASSY IN BISSAU. SCHAUFLE SAID IT IS OUR INTENTION THAT A US AMBASSADOR RESIDENT IN BISSAU ALSO BE ACCREDITED TO CAPE VERDE, WHERE WE DO NOT EXPECT TO HAVE A RESIDENT MISSION. SCHAUFLE NOTED THAT AMERICAN EMBASSY IN DAKAR WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS NECESSARY FOR OPENING

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AN EMBASSY IN BISSAU.

2. IN RESPONSE TO SCHAUFLE'S QUERY ABOUT STATUS OF RELATIONS BETWEEN CAPE VERDE AND GUINEA-BISSAU, FERNANDES SAID THE TWO GOVERNMENTS HAD NOT DECIDED WHAT FORM LINKAGE WILL TAKE, MENTIONING AS POSSIBILITIES FEDERATION, CONFEDERATION, AND UNIFICATION. HE ADDED THAT ANY LINKAGE WOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT NEEDS AND WISHES OF PEOPLES OF BOTH NATIONS.

3. IN DISCUSSION ABOUT GUINEA-BISSAU'S PLANS FOR ECONOMIC

DEVELOPMENT, SCHAUFLE TOLD FERNANDES HE UNDERSTOOD AN AID TEAM WAS PLANNING TO VISIT BISSAU IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO DISCUSS WITH GUINEA-BISSAU OFFICIALS POSSIBLE US ASSISTANCE.

4. FERNANDES ASKED IF THERE WAS ANY POSSIBILITY US WOULD MAKE CONTACT WITH MPLA. SCHAUFLE REPLIED THAT PRESENCE OF SOVIETS AND 11,000 CUBANS IN ANGOLA, AS WELL AS US SUPPORT FOR OTHER MOVEMENTS, PRECLUDE DISCUSSIONS WITH MPLA. FERNANDES OPINED THAT US BACKING QUOTE WRONG HORSE UNQUOTE IN ANGOLA AND THAT THE LONGER US FAILED TO ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH MPLA THE MORE DIFFICULT US-MPLA RELATIONS WOULD BE IN FUTURE. SCHAUFLE EMPHASIZED THAT US CANNOT IGNORE SOVIET AND CUBAN INTERVENTION, ADDING THAT HIS LONG AFRICAN EXPERIENCE HAD TAUGHT HIM AFRICANS MEETING TOGETHER CAN SOLVE ANY PROBLEM, BUT THAT THE MASSIVE FOREIGN INTERVENTION WOULD HAVE UNFORTUNATE CONSEQUENCES FOR ANGOLA'S FUTURE.

5. FERNANDES SAID HE WOULD BE MAKING BRIEF VISIT TO BISSAU FOLLOWING WEEK AND WOULD CONVEY AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE'S COMMENTS TO HIS GOVERNMENT. SCHAUFLE INVITED FERNANDES TO CALL ON HIM SOON AFTER HIS RETURN FROM BISSAU.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS, DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION, MEETINGS, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE035830
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RAMCGUIRE/JKBISHOP:JW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760056-0797
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760249/aaaabqzd.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 19618
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. RELATIONS WITH GUINEA-BISSAU AND CAPE VERDE
TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, EAID, CV, PU, AO, (SCHAUFEL, WILLIAM E JR), (FERNANDES, GIL)
To: DAKAR LISBON
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006